



# **Legal Proceedings**

## **PSC and ORS**

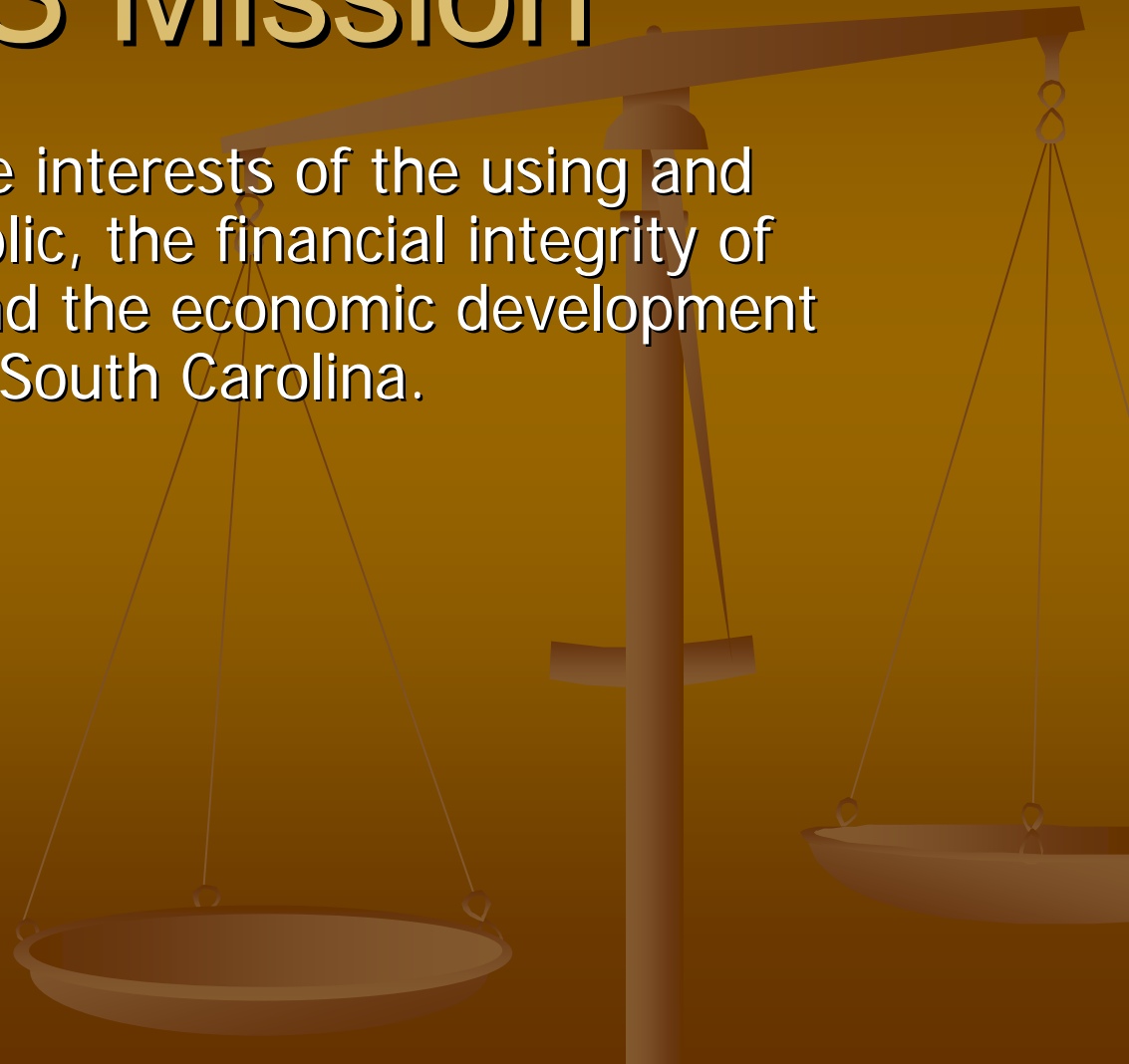
**Jeffrey M. Nelson, Esquire**

**South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff**

**November 29, 2006**

# ORS Mission

To balance the interests of the using and consuming public, the financial integrity of public utilities and the economic development of South Carolina.



# Who is Subject to Public Service Commission Regulation?

## All “Public Utilities”

- “Public Utilities” includes every corporation or person furnishing or supplying water, sewerage collection or sewerage disposal to the public for compensation.
- PSC does not regulate government operated systems (municipal, county or district)

What about Businesses that are not **Exclusively** a “Public Utility?”

# Questions For And Advice From The Office Of Regulatory Staff

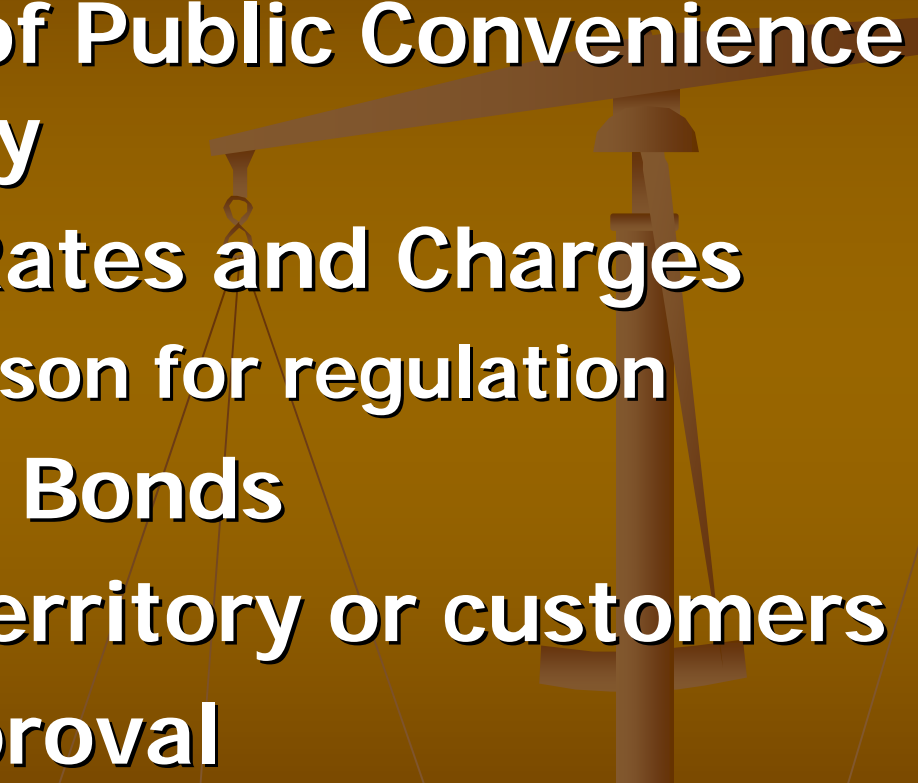
- **Advice from the ORS**

- We assist but may not provide legal advice
- ORS seeks to aid in dispute resolution

- **Advice from the PSC**

**None. *Ex Parte* communications with Commissioners or the Commission Staff is no longer permitted under Act 175.**

# **Applications Before and Filing Requirements of the Public Service Commission**

- **Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity**
  - **Changes in Rates and Charges**
    - **Principal reason for regulation**
  - **Performance Bonds**
  - **Changes in territory or customers**
  - **Contract Approval**
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# Applications Before and Filing Requirements of the Public Service Commission (cont.)

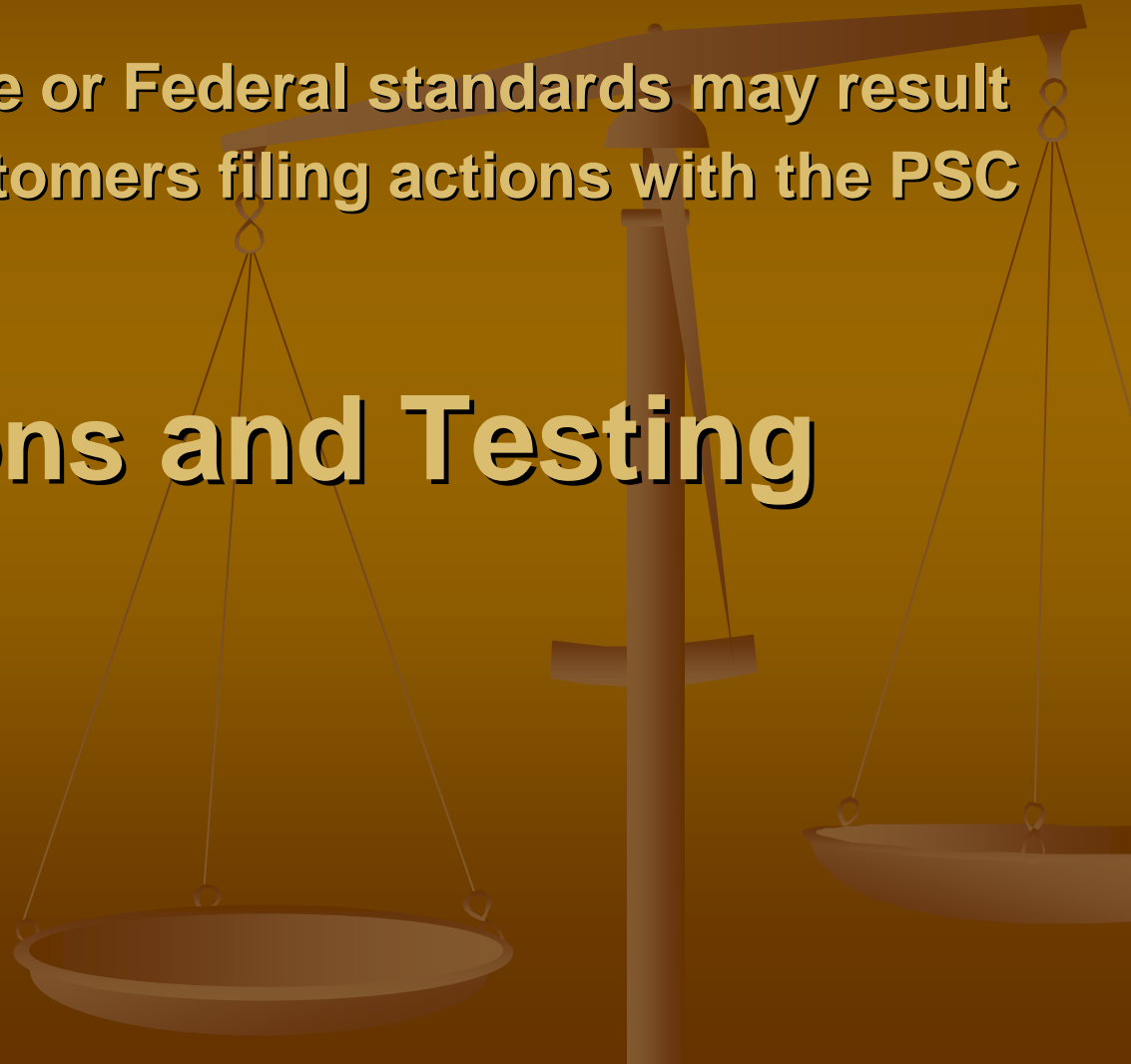
- **Settlement Agreement**
- **Rule-to-Show Cause**
  - Filed by ORS for non-compliance
- **Petition for Forfeiture**
- **Receivership**
- **Bankruptcy**
- **Other Records and Reports**



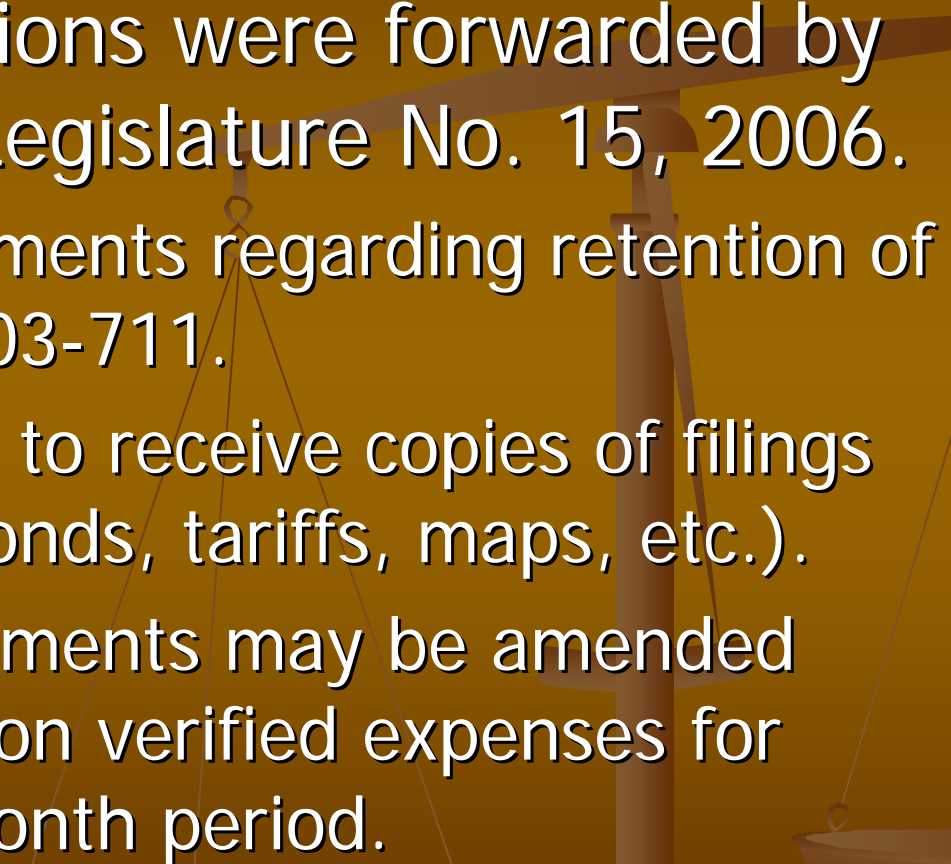
# Standards and Quality of Service

■ Failure to meet State or Federal standards may result in DHEC, ORS, or customers filing actions with the PSC

## Inspections and Testing



# Revisions to Regulations

- Revised Regulations were forwarded by the PSC to the Legislature No. 15, 2006.
    - Revised requirements regarding retention of records. Reg. 103-711.
    - Addition of ORS to receive copies of filings (applications, bonds, tariffs, maps, etc.).
    - Bonding requirements may be amended annually based on verified expenses for preceding 12 month period.
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# QUESTIONS

